

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

MAERTENS et al.

Serial No. 09/638,693

Filed: August 15, 2000

Title: NEW SEQUENCES OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS GENOTYPES AND THEIR USE AS
THERAPEUTIC AND DIAGNOSTIC AGENTS

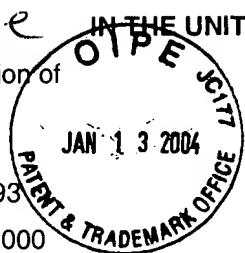
Atty Dkt. 2551-114

C# M#

Group Art Unit: 1631

Examiner: Martinell

Date: January 13, 2004



Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE/AMENDMENT/LETTER

This is a response/amendment/letter in the above-identified application and includes an attachment which is hereby incorporated by reference and the signature below serves as the signature to the attachment in the absence of any other signature thereon.

 Correspondence Address Indication Form Attached.**Fees are attached as calculated below:**

| | | | | |
|--|----|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| Total effective claims after amendment | 0 | minus highest number | | |
| previously paid for | 20 | (at least 20) = | 0 x \$ 18.00 | \$ 0.00 |
| Independent claims after amendment | 0 | minus highest number | | |
| previously paid for | 3 | (at least 3) = | 0 x \$ 86.00 | \$ 0.00 |
| If proper multiple dependent claims now added for first time, add \$290.00 (ignore improper) | | | | \$ 0.00 |
| Petition is hereby made to extend the current due date so as to cover the filing date of this paper and attachment(s) (\$110.00/1 month; \$420.00/2 months; \$950.00/3 months) | | | | \$ 0.00 |
| Terminal disclaimer enclosed, add \$ 110.00 | | | | \$ 0.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First/second submission after Final Rejection pursuant to 37 CFR 1.129(a) (\$770.00) | | | | \$ 0.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Please enter the previously unentered , filed | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Submission attached | | | | |
| | | | Subtotal | \$ 0.00 |
| If "small entity," then enter half (1/2) of subtotal and subtract | | | | -\$ 0.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims "small entity" status. <input type="checkbox"/> Statement filed herewith | | | | |
| Rule 56 Information Disclosure Statement Filing Fee (\$180.00) | | | | \$ 0.00 |
| Assignment Recording Fee (\$40.00) | | | | \$ 0.00 |
| Attached: Amendment, copy of REVISED AMENDMENT PRACTICE Notice, copy of Notice mailed December 30, 2003 | | | | 0.00 |
| | | | TOTAL FEE ENCLOSED | \$ 0.00 |

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Account No. 14-1140. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

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NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.
By Atty: B. J. Sadoff, Reg. No. 36,663

Signature: 



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* * * * *

January 13, 2004

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Sir:

AMENDMENT

Responsive to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated December 30, 2003 (copy attached) and the Official Action dated September 11, 2003, entry and consideration, and a Decision on the Rule 181 Petition filed December 11, 2003, and entry of the following amendments and remarks are requested. A Decision on the attached Petition is requested prior to a further Action on the merits from the Examiner.

The following Amendment is the same as the Amendment filed December 11, 2003, but for the formal change of identifying claims as "Previously Presented", pursuant to the attached REVISED AMENDMENT PRACTICE (Rev. 3 (07/24/03) Flyer for mailing with all Office actions by all TCs), instead of "Previously Added" or "Previously Amend d", as obj cted-to by th attached Notice. R f r nces in the following R marks to items which are attached refer to

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**items attached to the Amendment filed December 11, 2003, further copies of
which are not believed to be required.**